

The Cornell Japanimation Society

Schedule for November 10, 1989:

Time Alien Étranger (Goshogun)

Mobile Suit Gundam 0080 - War in the Pocket #6: "The War in the Pocket"

Aim for the Top! - Gunbuster #3 Story 5: "Please! Some Time for Love!"

Story 6: "Beyond the Endless River"

Étranger:

As the film opens, REMY asks, "Where am I? Where is everybody?" She meets with her friends, but no one seems to know where they are going, or why ...

Caption: "A couple of days ago, the six travelers passed the desert and arrived at the unknown town ..."

We have little time to appreciate the town and its strange inhabitants before the scene changes, and we see Remy in an (earlier? later?) adventure, apprehending some ruthless thieves. However, she suffers an attack of double vision ... and we flash back to her childhood in France.

Remy has few memories of her mother (whose profession is pretty obvious), but does remember one thing: she died while Remy was still quite young.

At the GOSHOGUN Museum, SHINGO and KILLY are waiting for Remy to show up for their 40-year reunion. They are unaware that she is fighting for her life in a hospital.

The hospital staff can't locate a next of kin for her, and in a panic to find someone to take responsibility for the bill, they track down KERUNAGUURU. When Shingo and Killy arrive, they are told the bad news. Remy wasn't seriously hurt in the accident, but the cause of her double vision is "shinkosei hakkuri byo"; an incurable disease of the nervous system. There is a surgical procedure that is occasionally successful, but they must have the approval of the hospital administrator. To their surprise, he turns out to be DR. KATTONAL, another member of the Goshogun team.

At this moment, the good doctor is (yet again) trying to buy up the estate of BONDORU, the final member of the Goshogun team. They head off to the hospital, but we journey back to that weird town ...

Remy receives an envelope containing some disturbing photographs and a note reading: "In two days, you will be dead."

At the hospital, Remy has been given just a 1% chance to live, but Bondoru says, "She has never given up before ..." We see the young Remy showing her legendary determination, when is teased about her mother by a gang of boys - who soon regret it.

Events in the strange town seem to be bearing out the prophecy in the letter ... or are they? While looking for the source of the blood, Remy meets the others (who were also looking) and finds out that they too had each received a letter. Young Remy is accused of

stealing the money she got from the young boys and falls into a cave while fleeing from the police.

The Goshogun team is told by the police that everyone in the town receives one of those letters before they die - and they invariably do die - "There is no escape from fate," croaks a wizened old hag. The police caution the crew not to leave the hotel, as the more fanatically religious among the locals have been known to "assist" the curse.

The letters give everyone a different number of days left, but Remy's is the shortest: two days. They ignore the police warning and are violently "rescued" from a situation that they could easily have handled alone. They are fed up and decide to leave the town but are told that, "No one ever leaves this place ... it is impossible."

They are placed under police protection and confined to their hotel. Remy has a very disturbing experience and is again warned, "In two days, you will be just like this ..."

Remy pursues her tormentors but sprains her wrist fighting off an assailant. She is saved by Killy, who tells her their plan. Since she is supposed to be the first to die, the rest of the gang figures that all they have to do is keep her alive past the two day deadline and the "power of fate" will lose some credibility ... and hopefully, the natives will ease up. She and Bondoru try to escape from the town but are told "The only way out is eternal sleep ..."

Meanwhile, in the hospital, Remy weakens ...

Young Remy is cold and alone, has lost all hope, and fully expects to die ... "But maybe I'll meet Mommy again, when I die ..."

The following day, Remy is again visited by the evil child, who gloats and says, "Tomorrow, you will be dead ..."

The team makes preparations for the morrow, each in their own way, and the young Remy meets the "shades" of the other Goshogun team members. They tell her, "We've come back to play with you ... for a while."

Back at the hospital, the doctor tells Remy's friends that she only has about 30 minutes left, so they'd better say their goodbyes ...

The final assault on the citadel takes place and in the central chamber, they are told, "I didn't think that you would make it this far but regardless, you can't change your fate!"

Remy sees her younger self and hears her say, "Oh ... I'm so cold ... maybe I should just give up ... " But Remy denies the vision, saying "It's a lie! I would never give up!"

It seems that opposition is overwhelming, but her friends are glad to help out. Bondoru assures her, "Actually, my letter said that I was supposed to die yesterday and I'm still alive ... so you can make it too."

Remy fights her final battle and her indomitable spirit gives her victory or does it?

Goodnaturedly, she scolds Bondoru for telling a lie. "Your letter didn't say you would die yesterday, did it?" "Does it really matter now?" he says philosophically. "Even though your grave is here ... "

"Yeah, who dug my grave already? Damn them!"

She talks with her younger self and gives her some pertinent advice. "Always remember, where there's life, there's hope!"

As the others leave the hospital in depression, there is a shout. "Wait, everyone! I want to come with you!"

Does she? You decide ...

Closing caption: "And ... somewhere in endless time, their journey continues still ... "

(Synopsis taken from Baycon '86 Guide)

Gundam 0080 Vol. 6:

"To prevent the Zion Granada moon base from launching a nuclear strike on the peaceful colony that Al and Chris live on, I have to destroy the Gundam before the time limit ... " Bernie repairs the shot-down Zaku and challenges the Alex to a final battle. Without knowing who they fight against, Bernie's Zaku and Chris' Alex charge against each other! "Bernie, you don't need to fight anymore!" Al's voice rings through the battlefield. In the year 0080 U.C., a little boy's "war in the pocket" is about to come to a climax ... !

Gunbuster #3:

Story 5: When Noriko came back, because of the twins' paradox effect, 10 years had passed on earth.

After completing her graduation ceremony with Kazumi (just the two of them), she runs into Kimiko, who is married now and already has a child! Kimiko asks Noriko to get her daughter a seat on the evacuation ship. Humanity is currently activating a plan born of desperation, evacuating earth.

But the situation worsens rapidly when it is discovered that the aliens' main fleet is heading towards them! They number in the billions and will cross the solar system final defensive line by tomorrow!

Meanwhile, back at Okinawa, Noriko spends her lonely time in the dorm. She feels that she's been left behind after seeing Kimiko's daughter. She then runs into Coach and Kazumi having an argument in the faculty room. Kazumi flees, hiding her tears. Then, suddenly, Coach

starts coughing blood! Coach stops Noriko from calling a doctor. "Gunbuster is humanity's last hope." He then asks Noriko, "Protect Amano!"

At military supreme command, the mood is gloomy. Then, Coach bursts in! He proposes a plan. Send in Exerion unmanned into the center of the aliens with the protection of Gunbuster. Then, overload the engines, creating a miniature black hole, swallowing up all the aliens!

Noriko and Kazumi are called to pilot buster machines 1 and 2. But, Kazumi is pensive. She has been informed that the Coach whom she loves only has a half-year's life left. And, the plan will take half a year to occur, because of the twins' paradox again. She might never see him again!

As Noriko and Kazumi approach the center of the aliens, Kazumi finally breaks. "No, I don't want to go any further! He'll die!" What will become of earth!?

Story 6: (this story takes place 15 years after story 5 ... Kazumi has been on earth for all this time ... Noriko has been flying around in space during this period and as a result, has only aged 1/2 year. This story is in black/white. It also marks the end of Aim for the Top! and as such, is a dramatic and moving end. There is no synopsis for this story because it is better experienced than read ... and I ran out of time to work on it. (grin))